

HOW HANSARD IS LOADED UP WITH OPPOSITION SLANDER

A Diary of the Present Session of the House of Commons Showing How the Time of Parliament Has Been Wasted by the Opposition—Some of the Flights of Oratory Indulged in by Slanderers.

The Ottawa Free Press publishes a diary of the session, categorically stating the means that have been utilized to prevent the despatch of business and to prolong the session against the wishes of the government. The diary has not the courage to prefer as explicitly charges.

The speech from the throne in the Dominion parliament was read on November 28. The opposition in the debate on the address in reply began a campaign of slander which has continued to the exclusion of ordinary business to the present time.

The main estimates for 1908-9 were presented on December 11 and by March 24, three and a half months, only \$4,583,415.00 out of \$48,415,000 had been voted. As the fiscal year ended on March 31st and the public service for the year commencing April 1st, could not be carried on without supplies being voted, without discussion. On the same date the extra supplementary estimates for the year ending March 31st, 1909, were presented. These amounted to five million dollars and represented expenditures made during the current fiscal year beyond the amount authorized by parliament. These also were debated practically without discussion. Last year the main estimates were presented on February 7th and received the royal assent on April 27th.

The following diary shows how the time of parliament has been occupied instead of discussing the estimates—

December 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11, debate on the address in reply to the governor's opening speech.

December 11, main estimates brought down.

December 13, motion to go into committee of supply. R. L. Borden (Conservative) leader of the opposition, introduced a circular of a gentleman, who engages to "issue marriage licenses, legal papers, make all kinds of legal papers, passports, get permits for old or crippled people to be allowed to land in Canada, etc." Hon. Geo. E. Foster (Conservative) moved for a vote on the circular to explain his financial arrangements to aid in the removal of the Northwest coast of the Hudson's Bay territory. The motion was agreed to. Civil government items passed. The House then went to the estimates of the agricultural department, and four of the public works department. W. H. Bennett (Conservative) asked the minister to explain the "cheats and embezzlers" in the public works department.

December 17—Motion to go into supply. R. L. Borden (Conservative) asks for an opportunity to raise the North Atlantic coast of the Hudson's Bay territory. Debate ensues and is continued at the evening sitting. House eventually goes into committee of supply, and the excess vote is passed.

December 18—R. S. Lake (Conservative) asks for a return of papers and returns relating to the disposal of timber lands.

Jan. 9—France-Canada trade treaty resolutions considered. House subsequently goes into committee of supply. Vote of department of marine and fisheries and vote of the department of the interior. G. Taylor (Conservative) accuses the Hon. L. P. Brodeur of extravagance in the expenditure of the Great Britain for the colonial conference; complains of the travelling expenses of the department of marine and fisheries; and of the department of the interior. G. Taylor (Conservative) accuses the Hon. L. P. Brodeur of extravagance in the expenditure of the Great Britain for the colonial conference; complains of the travelling expenses of the department of marine and fisheries; and of the department of the interior.

Jan. 10—Motion to go into supply. R. S. Lake (Conservative) asks for a return of papers and returns relating to the disposal of timber lands.

Jan. 11—Motion to go into supply. R. S. Lake (Conservative) asks for a return of papers and returns relating to the disposal of timber lands.

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Jan. 25—Motion to go into supply. R. S. Lake (Conservative) asks for a return of papers and returns relating to the disposal of timber lands.

Jan. 26—Motion to go into supply. R. S. Lake (Conservative) asks for a return of papers and returns relating to the disposal of timber lands.

and her officials. Canadians were more far-sighted and would not uphold the government in such a course. The amendment is negative. Supply—At the outset, George E. Foster (Conservative) threatens continued obstruction. "There is every difference," he says, "between getting into supply and getting supplies." Then for consideration. "Further amount required for the construction of an ice-breaking steamer for the Northwest coast."

February 11—Geo. E. Foster (Conservative) again indulges his political imagination in fancifully placing on the humble equipment of the ice-breaker, Montcalm, tasks of "all this remarkable jewelry and fixings," and offers some criticism, because the minister of marine replied that there had been serious wrecks of schooners, and actual famine was in some places.

January 14—House in committee on the France-Canada treaty. George E. Foster (Conservative) criticizes it, saying it does not coincide with the wishes of the country; and thinks the French have got the best of the bargain.

January 16—Debate on the French treaty resumed. H. B. Ames (Conservative) also claims that Canada does not receive under it, an adequate return for what she consents.

January 17—Motion to go into supply. W. H. Bennett (Conservative) complains that an official of the public works department has charge of original documents from the department, when they are produced before the public accounts committee; and that, as soon as they are taken away by the committee and the committee rises, they are returned to the department. The minister of the department had said there were papers missing, and Mr. Bennett adds: "Surely he does not mean any insinuation that they were taken away by the parties interested." George Taylor (Conservative) next brings up the matter of railway connections at Brockville. J. D. Reid (Conservative) complains that the meetings of the public works committee are called at unsuitable times; A. C. Boyce (Conservative) protests against the purchase of land for the National transcontinental. House eventually goes into supply. Debate on the expenditure of \$25,000 on the Royal Mounted Police for public buildings, estimated to capital, passed.

January 21—Motion to go into supply. R. L. Borden (Conservative) makes his report concerning his mission to Japan. R. L. Borden (Conservative) makes his report concerning his mission to Japan. R. L. Borden (Conservative) makes his report concerning his mission to Japan.

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WESTERN CANADIAN FAIR
\$20,000 in Prizes; \$15,000 in Purse. For Prize List and Illustrated Pamphlet write the Manager. See Strobbe's Air Ship and other high-class attractions.

Smith alleges that timber limits have been given to party friends.

March 23—Reply to Mr. Foster's question re Captain Bernier and the Arctic expedition.

March 24—Supply. Opposition agrees to vote, without discussion, one-eighth of the estimates to carry on the public service in the first six weeks of the new financial year—a matter of over \$11,000,000. Supplementary estimates also taken up. Garrison at Halifax is reported to be without pay, in consequence of the delay in passing these estimates.

March 25—Budget debate. R. S. Lake (Conservative) on the North Atlantic Trading Company and the Saskatchewan Valley land deal.

Public Accounts Committee continues its investigation of the disposal of timber limits. J. G. Turfitt, on oath, contradicts the allegations made against him; his secretary declares that the tenders were always opened in her presence, and that there was nothing untoward in the proceedings. The Opposition admit that their case has broken down and announces that they have no more evidence to offer.

This is the close of the analysis of obstruction, but the obstruction is by no means ended, neither is the period of the analysis first day two days a week and then three, it will be realized that, in nine cases out of